

Ascension Day
May 14, 2026

*And when he had
said these things...*

HE WAS LIFTED UP

*and a cloud took
him out of their sight.*

A C T S 1 : 9 . E S V

Hymn of Invocation: 532 The Head That Once Was Crowned with Thorns



1 The Head that once was crowned with thorns Is
 2 The high - est place that heav'n af - fords Is
 3 The Joy of all who dwell a - bove, The
 4 To them the cross, with all its shame, With



crowned with glo - ry now; A roy - al di - a -
 His, is His by right, The King of kings and
 Joy of all be - low To whom He man - i -
 all its grace, is giv'n; Their name an ev - er -



dem a - dorns The might - y Vic - tor's brow.
 Lord of lords, And heav'n's e - ter - nal Light;
 feasts His love And grants His name to know.
 last - ing name, Their joy the joy of heav'n.

- 5 They suffer with their Lord below,
 They reign with Him above,
 Their profit and their joy to know
 The myst'ry of His love.
- 6 The cross He bore is life and health,
 Though shame and death to Him:
 His people's hope, His people's wealth,
 Their everlasting theme.

Text: Thomas Kelly, 1769-1855
 Tune: Jeremiah Clarke, c. 1674-1707
 Text and tune: Public domain

Stand - The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

Matthew 28:19b; 18:20

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Exhortation

1 John 1:8-9

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins
 and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Kneel/Stand - Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Confession of Sins

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Absolution

[John 20:19–23]

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Stand

Service of the Word

Psalm 47

¹Clap your hands, all peoples! Shout to God with loud songs of joy!

²**For the LORD, the Most High, is to be feared, a great king over all the earth.**

³He subdued peoples under us, and nations under our feet.

⁴**He chose our heritage for us, the pride of Jacob whom he loves.**

⁵God has gone up with a shout, the LORD with the sound of a trumpet.

⁶**Sing praises to God, sing praises! Sing praises to our King, sing praises!**

⁷For God is the King of all the earth; sing praises with a psalm!

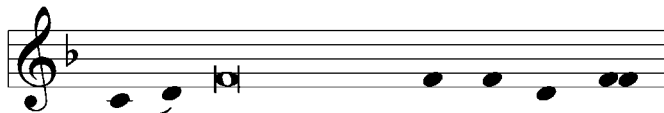
⁸**God reigns over the nations; God sits on his holy throne.**

⁹The princes of the peoples gather as the people of the God of Abraham. For the shields of the earth belong to God; he is highly exalted!

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Kyrie

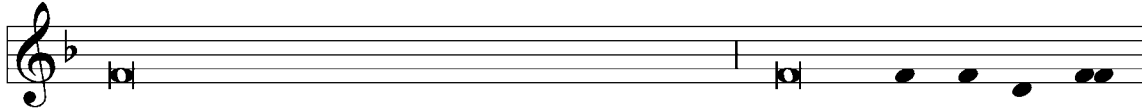
Mark 10:47



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



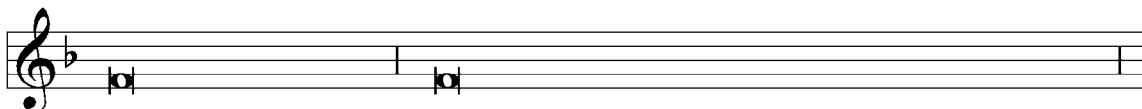
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



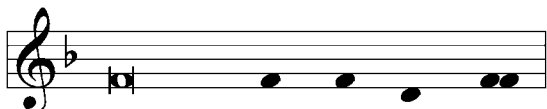
and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



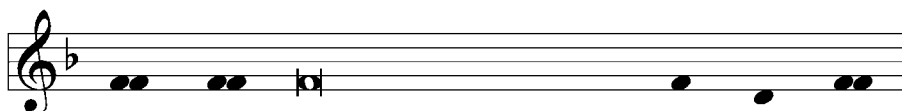
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



C A - men.

This Is the Feast

Revelation 5:12-13; 19:5-9



C This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 — Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and
 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and
 4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to
 5 For the Lamb _____ who was slain has be -



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*
 hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*
 join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*
 gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Salutation and Collect of the Day



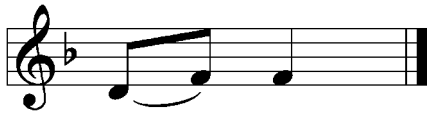
P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, as Your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, ascended into the heavens, so may we also ascend in heart and mind and continually dwell there with Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Sit

First Reading

Acts 1:1-11

¹In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, ²until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. ³To them he presented himself alive after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.

⁴And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, “you heard from me; ⁵for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

⁶So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” ⁷He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” ⁹And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, ¹¹and said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

adapt. from Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6



Christ has risen | from the dead.*

[God the Father] has crowned him with glory and | honor.

He has given him dominion over the works | of his hands;*

he has put all things un- | der his feet.

Epistle

Ephesians 1:15–23

¹⁵For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, ¹⁶I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, ¹⁷that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, ¹⁸having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might ²⁰that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. ²²And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

John 6:68



C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Luke 24:44–53

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

⁴⁴Then [Jesus] said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.” ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, ⁴⁶and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.”

⁵⁰Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. ⁵¹While he blessed them, he parted from them and was carried up into heaven. ⁵²And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, ⁵³and were continually in the temple blessing God.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

The Paschal Candle is extinguished symbolizing our Lord's ascension into heaven.

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

Hymn of the Day: 494 See, the Lord Ascends in Triumph



1 See, the Lord as - cends in tri - umph; Con - qu'ring King in
 2 Who is this that comes in glo - ry With the trump of
 3 While He lifts His hands in bless - ing, He is part - ed
 4 Now our heav'n - ly Aar - on en - ters With His blood with -
 5 He has raised our hu - man na - ture On the clouds to



roy - al state, Rid - ing on the clouds, His char - iot, To His
 ju - bi - lee? Lord of bat - tles, God of ar - mies, He has
 from His friends; While their ea - ger eyes be - hold Him, He up -
 in the veil; Josh - ua now is come to Ca - naan, And the
 God's right hand; There we sit in heav'n - ly plac - es, There with



heav'n - ly pal - ace gate. Hark! The choirs of an - gel voic - es
 gained the vic - to - ry. He who on the cross did suf - fer,
 on the clouds as - cends. He who walked with God and pleased Him,
 kings be - fore Him quail. Now He plants the tribes of Is - rael
 Him in glo - ry stand. Je - sus reigns, a - dored by an - gels;



Joy - ful al - le - lu - ias sing, And the por - tals
 He who from the grave a - rose, He has van - quished
 Preach - ing truth and doom to come, He, our E - noch,
 In their prom - ised rest - ing place; Now our great E -
 Man with God is on the throne. By our might - y



high are lift - ed To re - ceive their heav'n - ly King.
 sin and Sa - tan; He by death has crushed His foes.
 is trans - lat - ed To His ev - er - last - ing home.
 li - jah of - fers Dou - ble por - tion of His grace.
 Lord's as - cen - sion We by faith be - hold our own.

Text: Christopher Wordsworth, 1807-85, abr., alt.
 Tune: Henry T. Smart, 1813-79
 Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Stand Offertory

Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19



What shall I ren - der to the Lord for all His ben - e - fits to

me? I will of - fer the sac - ri - fice of thanks - giv - ing and will
 call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal -
 va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
 vows to the Lord now in the pres - ence of all His peo - ple, in the
 courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

Sit
Offering

Stand
Prayer of the Church

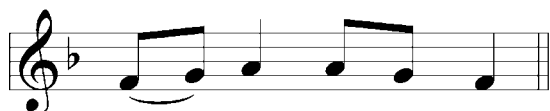
Service of the Sacrament

Before coming to Holy Communion, the Apostle St. Paul (as does Martin Luther in his Small Catechism) reminds us that each one should examine oneself, discerning rightly the Body and Blood of Christ in this Sacrament for the forgiveness of sins (1 Cor. 11:26-29). If you are not a confirmed member "in good standing" with the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (i.e. a young unconfirmed Lutheran, a member of another church fellowship, have an unresolved matter, or living an open life style outside of God's Commandments) please speak with the Pastor before approaching the altar; or, at the altar, please cross your hands over your heart indicating that the Pastor is to give you a verbal blessing.

Preface

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]

P The Lord be with you.



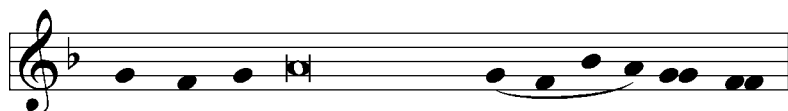
C And al - so with you.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface (Full)

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who after His resurrection appeared openly to all His disciples and in their sight was taken up into heaven that He might make us partakers of His divine life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✝ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✝ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

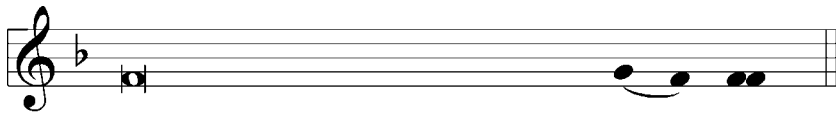
Lord's Prayer

C Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,

**Thy kingdom come,
 Thy will be done on earth
 as it is in heaven;
 give us this day our daily bread;
 and forgive us our trespasses
 as we forgive those
 who trespass against us;
 and lead us not into temptation,
 but deliver us from evil.
 For Thine is the kingdom
 and the power and the glory
 forever and ever. Amen.**

Pax Domini

John 20:19



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



C A - men.

Agnus Dei

John 1:29



C Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the



sin of the world; grant us peace.

Sit
Communion

Communion Hymn: 804 O Worship the King



1 O wor - ship the King, all - glo - rious a - bove.
2 O tell of His might, O sing of His grace,
3 This earth, with its store of won - ders un - told,
4 Thy boun - ti - ful care what tongue can re - cite?



O grate - ful - ly sing His pow'r and His love;
Whose robe is the light, whose can - o - py space;
Al - might - y, Thy pow'r hath found - ed of old,
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light,



Our shield and de - fend - er, the An - cient of Days,
His char - iots of wrath the deep thun - der - clouds form,
Es - tab - lished it fast by a change - less de - cree,
It streams from the hills, it de - scends to the plain,



Pa - vil - ioned in splen - dor and gird - ed with praise.
And dark is His path on the wings of the storm.
And round it hath cast, like a man - tle, the sea.
And sweet - ly dis - tills in the dew and the rain.

- 5 Frail children of dust
and feeble as frail,
In Thee do we trust,
nor find Thee to fail.
Thy mercies, how tender,
how firm to the end,
Our maker, defender,
redeemer, and friend!
- 6 O measureless Might,
ineffable Love,
While angels delight
to hymn Thee above,
Thy humbler creation,
though feeble their lays,
With true adoration
shall sing to Thy praise.

Communion Hymn: 477 Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven

(rise on last verse)



1 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Hearts to heav'n and voic - es raise:
 2 Al - le - lu - ia, Christ is ris - en! Death at last has met de - feat:
 Δ 3 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Glo - ry be to God on high:



Sing to God a hymn of glad - ness, Sing to God a hymn of praise;
 See the an - cient pow'rs of e - vil In con - fu - sion and re - treat;
 Al - le - lu - ia to the Sav - ior Who has gained the vic - to - ry;



He who on the cross a vic - tim For the world's sal - va - tion bled—
 Once He died, and once was bur - ied: Now He lives for - ev - er - more,
 Al - le - lu - ia to the Spir - it, Fount of love and sanc - ti - ty!



Je - sus Christ, the King of Glo - ry, Now is ris - en from the dead.
 Je - sus Christ, the world's Re - deem - er, Whom we wor - ship and a - dore.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia To the tri - une Maj - es - ty!

Text (sts. 1, 3): Christopher Wordsworth, 1807–85; (st. 2): rev. The Jubilate Group

Tune: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827; adapt. Edward Hodges, 1796–1867

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Stand

Thank the Lord

[Psalm 105:1–3, 42–43]; [1 Chronicles 16:8–10]



☐ Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud - ly bear His name.



He re - calls His prom - is - es and leads His peo - ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray.

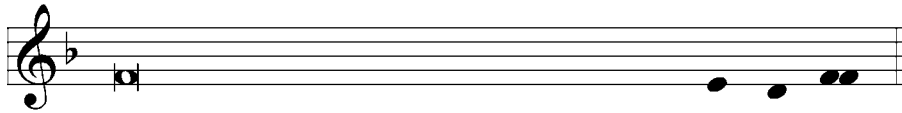
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Benediction

Numbers 6:24–26



P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you
and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.



C A - men.

Hymn to Depart: 493 A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing

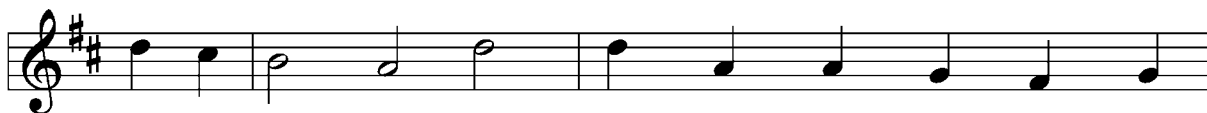
(rise on last verse)



1	A	hymn	of	glo - ry	let	us	sing!	New
2	The	ho - ly	ap - os - tol - ic	band				Up -
3	To	them	the	shin - ing	an - gels	cry,		“Why
4	“You	see	Him	now,	as - cend - ing	high		Up



hymns	through - out	the	world	shall	ring:	Al - le - lu - ia,
on	the	Mount	of	Ol - ives	stand.	Al - le - lu - ia,
stand	and	gaze	up - on	the	sky?”	Al - le - lu - ia,
to	the	por - tals	of	the	sky.”	Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia!	Christ,	by	a	road	be - fore	un -
al - le - lu - ia!	And	with	His	faith - ful	fol - l’wers	
al - le - lu - ia!	“This	is	the	Sav - ior,”	thus	they
al - le - lu - ia!	“Here	- af - ter	Je - sus	you	shall	



trod, As - cends un - to the throne of
 see Their Lord as - cend in maj - es -
 say; "This is His glo - rious tri - umph
 see Re - turn - ing in great maj - es -



God. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
 ty. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
 day!" Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
 ty." Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

- 5 Be now our joy on earth, O Lord,
 And be our future great reward.
 Alleluia, alleluia!
 Then, throned with You forever, we
 Shall praise Your name eternally.
 Alleluia, alleluia!
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

- △ 6 O risen Christ, ascended Lord,
 All praise to You let earth accord:
 Alleluia, alleluia!
 You are, while endless ages run,
 With Father and with Spirit one.
 Alleluia, alleluia!
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Text: Bede, 673-735; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978, alt.
 Tune: Geistliche Kirchengesäng, 1623, Köln
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Announcements

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Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book
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